

I. Duties and Responsibilities:

Incumbent serves as an Animal Health Technician with responsibility for coordinating and directing non-veterinary quarantine enforcement activities in a designated border area designed to prevent the entry into the United States of certain animals, animal products, or other material which might be potential carriers of infectious, contagious, or communicable diseases of livestock and poultry and to the export of animals and animal products and poultry. Assignments involve the application of technical knowledge, rules, orders, laws, and regulations, both of this country and foreign countries, which apply in the region serviced by the ports of entry in order to solve the situations and problems with which confronted.

Consults with and advises officials of the Mexican Government, Collectors of Customs and other personnel of the United States Customs Service, representatives of the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, importers, customs brokers, farmers, ranchers, livestock owners, and others regarding prohibitions and restrictions imposed by governing statutes and regulations.

Inspects livestock in border areas and cooperates with ranchers at roundup time to locate strayed or smuggled animals from Mexico; maintains good working relations with Mexican Government officials and Mexican nationals along the border; identifies brands of cattle and other livestock on both sides of the border to determine ownership and origin; is responsible for observing the status of the maintenance of the international boundary fence along the Mexican border and notifying superiors of needed repairs; conducts mounted and all-terrain vehicle reconnaissance along the Mexican boundary between ports of entry; maintains contact with informers on both sides of the Mexican boundary to obtain information in regard to illegal movements of livestock; investigates origin and status of cattle and other livestock offered for entry to determine their eligibility.

Cooperates with officers of the United States Customs Service in the apprehension and disposal of animals which stray or are smuggled into the United States from Mexico, as well as in the seizure and disposal of illegally entered animal by-products, hay straw, and other materials; is officially designated a Bureau of Customs agent to permit the apprehension and seizure of livestock and persons violating Federal regulations.

Cooperates with the Meat and Poultry Inspection Programs and the Bureau of Customs to assure that meat inspection regulations governing meats imported for personal consumption are complied with, also, the inspection of horse meat to determine if adequately matured; as necessary, cooperates with the officials of the various State Livestock Sanitary Boards, assuring that animals offered for export have met State requirements; as required, assists in conducting other non-veterinary quarantine enforcement operations; conducts chute inspection of livestock for the detection of ticks, scabies, and livestock diseases and reports findings to supervisor for diagnosis and disposition; assists Veterinarian in conducting serum agglutination tests for brucellosis on import cattle offered for entry from Mexico; prepares sera specimens from Mexico import equines for dourine and glanders tests.

Serves as a member of a READEO emergency disease task force as assigned.

II. Supervision Received:

Incumbent works under general supervision of higher-grade technician or Veterinarian. Periodic conferences are held to discuss work problems. Because of the nature of the work, considerable latitude for personal judgment is exercised.

(This standard job description cites the primary and typical but not all-inclusive duties of the position.)